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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND
VIRGIN ISLANDS BAR ASSOCIATION SPONSOR
PANEL ON UNDERSTANDING CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**

Acting United States Attorney Anthony J. Jenkins and Virgin Islands Bar Association President Amos W. Carty, Jr. announced today that the first public education and the law outreach activity will be held on Wednesday, October 13, 2004 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the St. Croix Curriculum Center at Kingshill, between St. Croix Central High School and the Territorial Court on St. Croix, with video teleconferencing hookup to the Department of Education's Curriculum Center across the street from Roosevelt Park on St. Thomas.

Wednesday's presentation is on "Understanding how the criminal justice system works," and will include, among other things, what happens when someone is arrested, a discussion on the federal grand jury system, the role of plea bargaining, and issues of detention and bail. The five member panel, which will be moderated by V.I. Bar Association President, Amos Carty, Jr., includes the Hon. Elton Lewis, Commissioner, V.I. Police Department, Cornelius Evans, Deputy Attorney General of the V.I. Department of Justice, Harold W. L. Willocks, Chief Territorial Public Defender; Thurston Mc Kelvin, Chief

Federal Public Defender, and Azekah Jennings, Criminal Chief, U.S. Attorney's Office.

The presentation is free to the public but is not intended to provide specific legal advice to individuals or groups with actual legal disputes. Instead, it is of an informational character to give residents a better appreciation of the criminal justice system.

The audience will be allowed to participate and ask questions of members of the panel after the moderator has completed his rounds of questions. Seating is limited at both the St. Croix and St. Thomas sites. The session will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.